



Commission on  
Fatherhood

The Ohio Commission on Fatherhood co-sponsored more than 25 high-visibility fatherhood celebrations and responsible fatherhood campaigns throughout Ohio in June, which Gov. Kasich declared to be "Responsible Fatherhood Month." These celebrations were hosted by community-based agencies and organizations, and they reached urban, suburban and rural areas. A total of \$60,000 was awarded in the following denominations: \$1,000, \$1,500 and \$2,500.

Responsible Fatherhood Month was designed to:

- \* Provide crucial information to help fathers be better parents, partners and providers;
- \* Promote positive fathering and co-parenting;
- \* Showcase local providers of fatherhood resources and information; and
- \* Highlight the alarming number of fatherless children in Ohio.

### **Lessons Learned**

- Release June 2015 Responsible Fatherhood Month announcement and application at an earlier date to allow ample time for planning and fiscal processes to run efficiently
- Minimize the number of grants awarded and increase the level of funding for each event
- Encourage collaborations with same county organizations submitting multiple applications
- Make schedule of events available in advance to encourage Commissioners participation
- Try to have an OCF staff member and/or commissioner at each 2015 Responsible Fatherhood Month event representing OCF
- Request Responsible Fatherhood video from Gov. Kasich to raise awareness of June 2015 Responsible Fatherhood Month and promote positive fathering

During our first Responsible Fatherhood Month initiative more than 4,500 fathers and more than 8,000 children attended these events, learned about the importance of fathers and, in some cases, received services. The events were such a success that the commission already is planning for the June 2015 Responsible Fatherhood Month.

## June 2014 Responsible Fatherhood Month Grantees

<b>Allen County</b>	<b>Huron County</b>
Lima/Allen Council of Community Affairs	Community Action Commission of Erie, Huron & Richland Counties
<b>Ashtabula County</b>	<b>Lucas County</b>
Ashtabula Community Connection Action Headstart	Lucas County Children Services
	Catholic Club
<b>Butler County</b>	<b>Marion County</b>
Carroll County Board of D.D.	The Starts Within Organization
<b>Clark County</b>	<b>Montgomery County</b>
Fatherhood Clark County	Montgomery County JFS
	BJ Kids 91
	Elizabeth New Life Center-Family Works
<b>Cuyahoga County</b>	
Cuyahoga County Fatherhood Initiative	OhioGuideStone
Children's Museum of Cleveland	Murtis Taylor Human Services System
Esperanza, Inc.	Men of Central
University Settlement	Cleveland Rise
<b>Franklin County</b>	<b>Portage County</b>
Boys & Girls Club of Columbus	Passages Connecting Fathers & Families
The Ridge Project	<b>Richland County</b>
Columbus Urban League	Richland County Youth & Family Council
<b>Hamilton County</b>	<b>Seneca County</b>
Talbert House	Seneca County Family & Children First Council
Cincinnati Police Department	<b>Summit County</b>
	Summit County Children Services